AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 - 7.   (canceled).

8.   (currently amended): ~~A printing method according to claim 3, wherein, if it is determined that the whole image data cannot be stored in terms of size as a result of determining whether or not the whole image data corresponding to said print image can be stored, in terms of size, in said memory area based on said copy-quality-mode information:~~

~~an area determination for determining an area of the image of said original necessary for printing is performed based on the image data that has been generated by reading the image in the original;~~A printing method for printing a print image on a medium comprising:

a step of storing, in a memory area, image data that has been generated by reading an image in an original;

a step of determining whether or not the whole image data corresponding to said print image can be stored, in terms of size, in said memory area; and

a step of performing printing up to a preset number of sheets based on the image data in said memory area if it is determined that the whole image data can be stored in terms of size, and

if it is determined that the whole image data cannot be stored in terms of size, performing an area determination for determining which area, in the original, is an area in which a print image exists based on the image data that has been generated by reading the image in the original;

determining whether or not the whole image data corresponding to said print image can

be stored, in terms of size, in said memory area is determined based on a result of said area

determination; and

if it is determined that the whole image data can be stored in terms of size,

storing data that has been re-read for the original having been subjected to said

area determination is stored in said memory area based on the result of said area

determination, and

performing printing is performed up to the preset number of sheets based on the

image data in said memory area.

9.   (currently amended): A printing method according to claim 1, wherein:

an area determination for determining an area of the image of said original necessary for

printing is performed based on the image data that has been generated by reading the image in

the original;

whether or not the whole image data corresponding to said print image can be stored, in

terms of size, in said memory area is determined based on a result of said area determination;

andA printing method for printing a print image on a medium comprising:

a step of storing, in a memory area, image data that has been generated by reading an

image in an original;

a step of performing an area determination for determining which area, in the original, is

an area in which a print image exists based on the image data that has been generated by reading

the image in the original;

<u>a step of determining whether or not the whole image data corresponding to said print image can be stored, in terms of size, in said memory area based on a result of said area determination; and</u>

if it is determined that the whole image data can be stored in terms of size,

<u>storing</u> data that has been re-read for the original having been subjected to said area determination ~~is stored~~ in said memory area based on the result of said area determination, and

<u>performing</u> printing ~~is performed~~ up to the preset number of sheets based on the image data in said memory area.

10.   (currently amended): A printing method according to claim 9, wherein:

a ~~moving amount~~ <u>scan width</u> for which an image-reading section for reading the image in said original is moved is changed based on the result of said area determination upon re-reading the original that has been subjected to said area determination.

11.   (currently amended): A printing method according to claim 9, wherein:

a ~~moving amount~~ <u>scan width</u> for which an image-reading section for reading the image in said original is moved is not changed upon re-reading the original that has been subjected to said area determination; and

image data corresponding to said print image is extracted from the data that has been read for the original having been subjected to said area determination and is stored in said memory area.

12.   (original): A printing method according to claim 9, wherein, if it is determined that the whole image data cannot be stored in terms of size:

operation of reading the original is performed every time printing is performed; and

printing is performed up to the preset number of sheets using the image data obtained by the reading operation.

13.   (original): A printing method according to claim 9, wherein:

said area determination is performed according to an image-reading operation that is not accompanied with printing.

14.   (original): A printing method according to claim 9, wherein:

said area determination is performed according to an image-reading operation that is accompanied with printing.

15.   (canceled).